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*Grade 9*  
*Achievement Test*

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*English Language Arts*  
*Part A: Writing*

*June 1996*

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**Grade 9 Achievement**  
**English Language Arts**  
**Part A: Writing**

***Description***

- This test consists of **two** sections.
- Before you write, you will have 10 minutes in total for discussion about the prompts in Section I and Section II.
- **Section I**, on page 2, contains some material for you to read and then respond to in writing.
- We suggest that you take about 70 minutes to complete Section I.
- When you have finished Section I, go on to Section II.
- **Section II**, on page 10, describes a situation that you must respond to in letter format.
- We suggest that you take approximately 40 minutes to write the letter.

**You have 2 hours to complete this test.**

**You may take up to an additional 1/2 hour to complete the test, if you need it.**

***Instructions***

- Before beginning to write, you will have 10 minutes to talk with your classmates (in groups of two to four) about the writing assignments, or to think about them alone.
- Jot down your ideas and/or make a plan before you write. Do this on the ***Ideas/Planning*** page.
- Write in blue or black ink on the lined pages provided.
- You are to do only one copy of your writing. Remember that you may neatly make changes and corrections directly on this writing.
- You may use the following references:
  - a print or electronic dictionary (English language and/or translation)
  - a thesaurus
- Your work will be evaluated on ***what*** you say and ***how well*** you say it (on **Content, Organization, Sentence Structure, Vocabulary, and Conventions**).



## Section I: Narrative/Essay Writing Assignment

*What makes a good friend or friendship? Write a narrative or essay about friends or friendship.*

Read and consider the following material, and then complete the writing assignment that follows.

### What Are Friends For?

What are friends for, my mother asks  
A duty undone, visit missed  
casserole unbaked for sick Jane.  
Someone has just made her bitter.

Nothing. They are for nothing, friends,  
I think. All they do in the end—  
they *touch* you. They fill you like music.

*Rosellen Brown*

### Oranges

I peel oranges neatly.  
The sections come apart cleanly, perfectly, in my hands

When Emily peels the orange, she tears holes in it.  
Juice squirts in all directions.

“Kate,” she says, “I don’t know how you do it!”

Emily is my best friend.  
I hope she never learns how to peel oranges.

*Jean Little*

### Quotes about Friends/Friendship

*If you have one true friend, you have more than your share.*

Thomas Fuller (1608–1661)

*What is a friend? A single soul dwelling in two bodies.*

Aristotle (384–322 B.C.)

*True happiness consists not in the multitude of friends, but in the worth and choice.*

Ben Jonson (1573–1637)

*To have a friend, you must be a friend.*

(Anonymous)

## **Section I: Narrative/Essay Writing Assignment (suggested time 70 minutes)**

*What makes a good friend or friendship? Write a narrative or essay about friends or friendship.*

Your response should be in the form of a story or essay.

You may draw from:

- your personal experiences
- materials on page 2
- other materials you have read
- television programs you have seen
- class discussions you have had

When writing, **be sure to:**

- **consider** your audience
- **focus** on your purpose
- **organize** your thoughts appropriately in sentences and paragraphs
- **budget** your time
- **proofread** and correct your work directly on your writing

## PLANNING

You may use this page to plan in whatever way you choose.



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**(Title)**













## ***Section II: Functional Writing (suggested time 40 minutes)***

Imagine that you are a member of a committee that is planning Career Day for the Grade 9 students of your school, Frazervale Junior High. As a member of this committee, you are responsible for inviting Dr. Pat Smith, a veterinarian, to be a guest speaker on Career Day, June 14, 1996.

### **ASSIGNMENT**

Write a letter to Dr. Pat Smith. Amongst other details, be sure to:

- request that Dr. Smith discuss various aspects of this career (job description, personal qualities needed, education required, salary, benefits, etc.)
- include the number of students who will be present, the time Dr. Smith should arrive at the school, where Dr. Smith should go upon arrival, and the amount of time Dr. Smith will have to speak to students
- mention that lunch will be provided for guest speakers
- request that Dr. Smith reply to you at the school
- sign your letter Kelly Brown—**do not sign your own name**

Correctly address the envelope outline provided on page 14, using the addresses below.

#### **School Address**

123 Main Street North, Bridgeport, Alberta T2H 3Z4

#### **Veterinary Clinic**

6006-3 Avenue, Simonsdale, Alberta T1A 1B1



## PLANNING

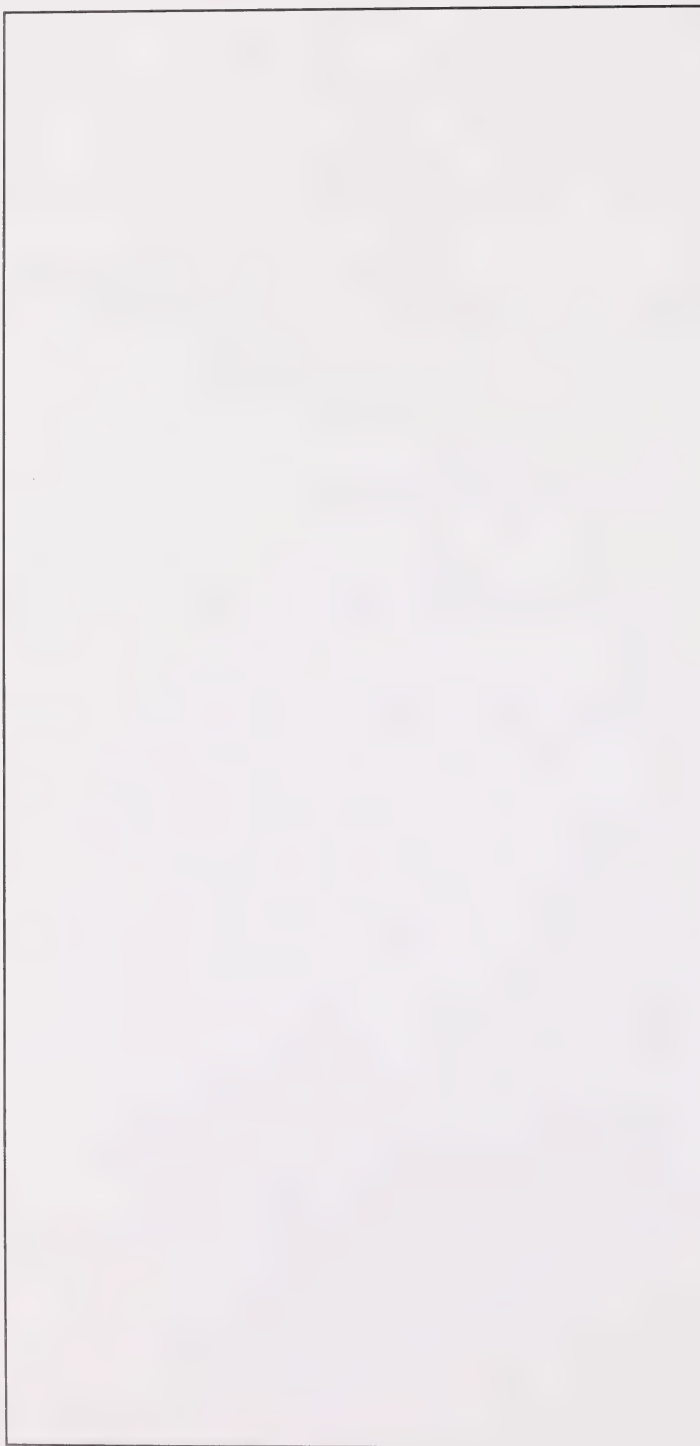
You may use this page to plan in whatever way you choose.

Blank lined paper for writing.





ENVELOPE





## *Credits*

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Jean Little. "Oranges" from *Hey World, Here I Am!*, text copyright © 1986 by Jean Little.  
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# GRADE 9 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS


Alberta Education  
Use Only

# No Name

Place Label Here

A

TEAR-OFF TAB

First Name (please print)

Last Name

Birth Date (Year/Month/Day)

School Name

City, Town, or Village

**SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

(B) MARKER

School Code	ID No.
000000	000000
111111	111111
222222	222222
333333	333333
444444	444444
555555	555555
666666	666666
777777	777777
888888	888888
999999	999999

### Narrative

⑨ No response ☐

⑩ Content ☐

Insufficient ☐

Organization ☐

Sentence Structure ☐

Vocabulary ☐

Conventions ☐

### Functional

⑪ No response ☐

⑫ Content ☐

Insufficient ☐

Organization ☐

Sentence Structure ☐

Vocabulary ☐

Conventions ☐

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

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9	9	9	9
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1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4
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6	6	6	6
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9	9	9	9
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8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9

Grade 9

Place Label Here









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